

Natalie Berndes Day

Presented by Councilmember Chris Cate

March 27, 2021

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes was born on March 27, 1915 and will turn 106 years of age on March 27, 2021. This makes Natalie Berndes the oldest living college graduate of San Diego State University and marks the second pandemic she has lived through as she was three years old during the 1918 influenza pandemic; **AND**

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes attended classes at San Diego State University, graduating in 1937, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education. Natalie used her degree throughout the 1960's and 1970's teaching early education at Warren-Walker School in Sunset Cliffs; **AND**

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes, alongside her late husband, A.E "Red" Berndes moved a total of 39 times in nearly 13 years (between 1939 to 1951), from Oklahoma, to Kansas, to Venezuela, and ultimately settling in the Loma Portal neighborhood of Point Loma in 1951 where Natalie and Red raised their family, which includes three sons, Barry, Jon, and Scott, and two daughters, Peggy and Jeannie. Natalie also has eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; **AND**

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes' family founded the Loma Portal Little League (now Peninsula Little League) in 1958 and, in 2012, one of the fields was named in honor of Red Berndes; **AND**

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes was the driving force and editor of a history of "Lakeshore Gardens," a senior mobile home complex in Carlsbad, CA where she lived with her husband for over 20 years. At the age of 103, Natalie was honored as Queen of the complex's Holiday Parade where she led the entourage riding in a white convertible, wearing her crown; **AND**

WHEREAS, Natalie Berndes currently lives with her son, Scott and grandson, Bret, at her home in Clairemont where she enjoys writing poetry and limericks. Natalie says about life, *"Just live every day. Enjoy the good life. You deserve it. This world was meant to be enjoyed and that's the way I feel about it."*; **AND**

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego proudly applauds Natalie Berndes for the extraordinary life she has led, wishes her a very Happy Birthday, and send their best wishes to Natalie and her family; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim March 27, 2021 to be **"Natalie Berndes Day"** in the City of San Diego.